ABANDONMENT PROJECT NARRATIVE

473-PA-2005

The four (4) Windmill Plaza lots at the northeast corner of Scottsdale Road and Gold Dust are proposed to be redeveloped, which will renovate and enhance the aesthetics of this corner area, the rear of which is currently an eyesore visible from Scottsdale Road. The renovation project will retain the existing restaurant, add retail uses, including potentially a coffee shop, on the ground level and add a second level of retail. The building redesign will make this portion of Windmill Plaza more attractive and will hopefully encourage much needed redevelopment of other property within the center.

As part of the redevelopment of the four (4) lots, an outdoor patio is proposed in the unused alley area south of the lots, which will significantly upgrade the corner and eliminate the current unattractive back-of-the-center appearance of this area. The redevelopment proposal has been submitted for Development Review Board (DRB) approval, and this is a request to abandon the alley to allow redevelopment of the rear of the site with an outdoor patio.

The alley was dedicated to the City by the original subdivision plat; however, the portion of the alley requested to be abandoned is no longer useable for access or services uses because of the widening of Gold Dust to the south and the location of the Gold Dust curb-cut on Scottsdale Road. No services are provided from this portion of the alley to any adjacent shops.

The utility companies and the City of Scottsdale Water Department have no objection to the abandonment of this unusable alley area, subject to relocation of existing utilities as necessary by the owner and the provision of any related Public Utility Easements (PUE's). The property owners association representatives have been informed of the abandonment request and have no objection to the abandonment or to the proposed improvements to the corner buildings including the outdoor patio area.

The proposed abandonment affords the opportunity to substantially enhance the aesthetics of the northeast corner of Scottsdale Road and Gold Dust and update the appearance of a highly visible portion of this older center. The abandonment will not affect the provision of utility services because the owner is willing to relocate the water line and will agree to stipulations needed by the City Water Resources Department as well as provide the alternative PUE's as necessary. The corner alley area will be improved with an outdoor patio and renovations to the adjacent buildings. The corner will present a far more attractive appearance from both Scottsdale Road and Gold Dust with the proposed redevelopment of the buildings and abandonment of an unusable and unsightly alley area. A copy of the proposed site plan and building design has been included with this application.

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